

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 /081 W

-----281156Z 085902 /40

R 271645Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BISSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0383

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BISSAU 0294

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, DU

SUBJECT: VISIT OF FRENCH COOPERATION MINISTER

1. FRENCH COOPERATION MINISTER ROBERT GALLEY VISITED BISSAU MAY 21-24 TO OSTENSIBLY REVIEW PROGRESS FRENCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN GUINEA-BISSAU. (FYI AGREEMENTS TOTALING DOLS 2.8 MILLION HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN SIGNED COVERING PERIOD 1975-78.) FOLLOWING PRESIDENT CABRAL'S PUBLIC PRAISE OF FRENCH COOPERATION AT HIS MARCH INAUGURAL, FRENCH-GUINEA-BISSAU RELATIONS HAD BEEN ENJOYING HONEYMOON WHICH RUDELY ENDED WITH GUINEA-BISSAU'S CRITICISM OF FRENCH ZAIRE POLICY AT DAKAR SUMMIT. GUINEAN DELEGATION CHIEF AT DAKAR, VASCO CABRAL, APPARENTLY OFFENDED PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR WITH THE VIRULENCE OF HIS DEFENSE OF ANGOLAN POSITION. GISCARD SUBSEQUENTLY SENT LETTER TO PRESIDENT LUIS CABRAL COMPLAINING OF INAPPROPRIATENESS OF GUINEA-BISSAU'S REMARKS AT DAKAR SUMMIT.

2. HEAD OF GUINEAN SIDE DURING GALLEY VISIT WAS SAME VASCO CABRAL, COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING. AND APPARENTLY ANTAGONISM WAS NOT FAR BENEATH THE SURFACE
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DURING ENTIRE COURSE OF VISIT. GUINEA-BISSAU POSITIONS WERE UNDERMINED HOWEVER, BY CONSTANT BICKERING BETWEEN CABRAL AND OTHER MEMBERS GUINEAN SIDE. GALLEY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CABRAL REPORTEDLY CONCENTRATED ON POLITICAL MATTERS RATHER THAN COOPERATION. FORMAL COMMUNIQUE INDICATED NO REAL PROGRESS AND ANNOUNCED NO NEW FRENCH ASSISTANCE.

3. GALLEY PRESS CONFERENCE DEALING PRINCIPALLY WITH SOUTHERN
AFRICAN QUESTIONS AND FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT WAS COMPLETELY
IGNORED BY LOCAL MEDIA.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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